



WESTFIELD

Hampden County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The City of Westfield is located in the heart of western Massachusetts. Westfield provides a pleasing small city atmosphere. With a population of 38,000, Westfield has the second largest land area in the Commonwealth, covering 30,000 acres. Yankee ingenuity and hard work are still sources of pride in Westfield. The old fashioned New England virtues of pragmatism and

neighbor cooperation make Westfield a great place to live and work, residents say.

Few cities enjoy such easy access to transportation coupled with an abundance of undeveloped land. The Massachusetts Turnpike's Westfield exit and nearby connections with interstate 91 provide easy automobile and truck access. The municipally Barnes Airport, offers private commuter and air freight aircraft service. Westfield is conveniently located within 30 minutes of Bradley International Airport. Westfield has railroad accessibility with the Pioneer Valley Railroad connecting with Conrail. Residents claim that everything a city should have is in Westfield: a great local school system, Westfield State College, a fine hospital, beautiful and affordable residential areas, diverse restaurants and shopping facilities and numerous parks and playgrounds including Stanley Park.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Agawam, Holyoke, and West Springfield on the east; Southwick and Granville on the south; Russell and Montgomery on the west; and Southampton on the north. Westfield is 98 miles southwest of Boston and 85 miles from Albany, New York.

Total Area: 47.33 sq. miles

Land Area: 46.59 sq. miles

Population: 38,372

Density: 824 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Springfield Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....74.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.9"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Woronoco, Mount Tom, Southwick, West Springfield

Regional Planning Agency

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Springfield



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 572-6200

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Mayor-Council

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1669

As a city: 1920

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 19,596

Democrats 7,186 36.7 % Republicans 4,433 22.6 % Other parties 12 0.1 % Unenrolled Voters 7,965 40.6 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Westfield city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	40,072	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	40,072	100.0
Male.....	19,385	48.4	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	2,008	5.0
Female.....	20,687	51.6	Mexican.....	58	0.1
Under 5 years.....	2,966	5.9	Puerto Rican.....	1,671	4.2
5 to 9 years.....	2,590	6.5	Cuban.....	11	-
10 to 14 years.....	2,880	7.2	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	268	0.7
15 to 19 years.....	3,541	8.8	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	38,064	95.0
20 to 24 years.....	3,211	8.0	White alone.....	36,893	92.1
25 to 34 years.....	4,930	12.3	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	6,301	15.7	Total population.....	40,072	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	5,498	13.7	In households.....	37,604	93.8
55 to 59 years.....	1,927	4.8	Householder.....	14,797	36.9
60 to 64 years.....	1,354	3.4	Spouse.....	7,836	19.6
65 to 74 years.....	2,638	6.6	Child.....	11,587	28.9
75 to 84 years.....	2,098	5.2	Own child under 18 years.....	8,859	22.1
85 years and over.....	738	1.8	Other relatives.....	1,348	3.4
Median age (years).....	35.8	(X)	Under 18 years.....	415	1.0
18 years and over.....	30,534	76.2	Nonrelatives.....	2,036	5.1
Male.....	14,529	36.3	Unmarried partner.....	867	2.2
Female.....	16,005	39.9	In group quarters.....	2,468	6.2
21 years and over.....	27,774	69.3	Institutionalized population.....	511	1.3
62 years and over.....	6,264	15.6	Noninstitutionalized population.....	1,957	4.9
65 years and over.....	5,474	13.7	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	2,165	5.4	Total households.....	14,797	100.0
Female.....	3,309	8.3	Family households (families).....	10,012	67.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	4,682	31.5
One race.....	39,534	98.7	Married-couple family.....	7,836	53.0
White.....	37,881	94.5	With own children under 18 years.....	3,463	23.4
Black or African American.....	365	0.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	1,573	10.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	90	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	917	6.2
Asian.....	329	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	4,785	32.3
Asian Indian.....	59	0.1	Householder living alone.....	3,826	25.9
Chinese.....	75	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	1,606	10.9
Filipino.....	55	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	4,987	33.7
Japanese.....	10	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	3,739	25.3
Korean.....	77	0.2	Average household size.....	2.54	(X)
Vietnamese.....	23	0.1	Average family size.....	3.07	(X)
Other Asian ¹	30	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	19	-	Total housing units.....	15,441	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	10	-	Occupied housing units.....	14,797	95.8
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	4	-	Vacant housing units.....	644	4.2
Samoa.....	4	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	79	0.5
Some other race.....	850	2.1	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.0	(X)
Two or more races.....	538	1.3	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.8	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	14,797	100.0
White.....	38,371	95.8	Owner-occupied housing units.....	10,030	67.8
Black or African American.....	497	1.2	Renter-occupied housing units.....	4,767	32.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	222	0.6	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.68	(X)
Asian.....	460	1.1	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.25	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	47	0.1			
Some other race.....	1,047	2.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 455

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 83

Federal (Section 8): 200



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Westfield is located in the Pioneer Valley, known as the crossroads of New England because of its strategic position along the Connecticut River and its excellent transportation facilities. The Massachusetts Turnpike connects the region to Boston and to Albany, New York. I-91 provides direct access to Hartford, Connecticut, and to Brattleboro and points north in Vermont.

Major Highways

Principal highways include State Route 10 running N-S; cross-state U.S. Route 20; and the Massachusetts Turnpike I-90, with an interchange in Westfield. I-91 is easily accessible in West Springfield.

Rail

Amtrak passenger rail service is available in nearby Springfield. Conrail and the Pioneer Valley Railroad (PVRP) provide freight service and interchange traffic in Westfield. The PVRP facilities include a bulk transfer facility, a pulp and paper warehouse and distribution center, and a lumber transfer facility. Conrail has a lumber transfer and distribution center. Contact numbers: Conrail: (617) 783-6222; PVRP: (413) 568-3331

Bus

Westfield is a member of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA), which provides fixed route service to Holyoke, West Springfield, and Springfield. The PVTA also offers paratransit services to the elderly and disabled through the council on Aging. Peter Pan Bus Lines offers limited service between Westfield, Westfield College and Springfield when Westfield State College is in session.

Other

Barnes Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located 3 mi. N of Westfield, has a 5,000' x 100' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

Edwin Smith Historical Museum

6 Elm Street

(413) 568-7833

Jasper Rand Art Museum

6 Elm Street

(413) 568-7833

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Noble Hospital
Western Mass. Hospital

Long Term Care

Governors House Nursing Home
Valley View Nursing Home, Inc
Westfield Manor Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

Barnard Rest Home

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.